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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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[redacted]

COUNTRY	USSR (Leningrad Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Optical-Mechanical Factory No. 349 (GOMZ) in Leningrad	DATE DISTR.	23 June 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Optical-Mechanical Plant No. 349 (Gosudarstvennyy Opticheskiy Mekhanicheskiy Zavod) (GOMZ) was located in Leningrad, Vyborgskaya Storona, in the southern portion of the square formed by the coordinates N 59-58 and 59-59; E 30-21 and 30-22, just north of the Finland Freight Station.[1] To the west and south the boundaries of the plant area were formed by Chungunnaya Ulitsa, to the north by the Karl Libknekht Plant for farming machines, and to the east by plant-owned athletic fields and a stadium. Access to the plant was by Chungunnaya Ulitsa and Arsenalnaya Ulitsa. A streetcar line ran through Lesnoy Prospekt nearby. (See location sketch and plant layout on pages 4,7).

2. The plant previously designated LOMZ No. 349 (Leningrad Optical Mechanical Zavod) had been transferred to Siberia during the war but returned in 1944 and 1945. During World War II, some of the leading personnel of the plant had allegedly worked in a LOMZ factory located in Leningrad-Shchemilovka, in the vicinity of the Bolshevik Armament Plant.[2]

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3. The plant management included Semenov (fnu) who had been plant director from 1946 until 1951 [redacted] Per (fnu), chief engineer from 1946 to 1948, a Jew, [redacted] 25X1 years of age, a pleasant, cultivated person, was discharged and, allegedly, later worked at a technical institute. Lopatin (fnu), a pleasant and vigorous person, replaced Per as chief engineer and became plant director after Semenov. Arkhipov (fnu), who was detached to the Zeiss Plant in Jena when it was being dismantled,

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became chief engineer in 1951. Abramov (fnu), business manager, allegedly replaced Chief Designer Galperin (fnu) in 1948. Galperin in turn, was transferred back to a minor position. Main department chiefs included Shoshin (fnu), an intelligent person, who had been in Jena during the dismantling of the Zeiss Plant and became chief of the optical laboratories after 1947. Muraveskiy (fnu) until 1951 had been chief of the chemical and vacuum laboratories, of the experimental workshop, and the spectrum laboratory. Krup (fnu), a Jew, who had been chief of the optical laboratory [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] He was replaced by a woman engineer named Koskolova (fnu). In 1946, Duemann, (fnu) became chief of the foundry. 25X1 The chief designers working at the plant included Delyanov (fnu), in charge of precision measuring equipment; Dobchin (fnu), chief designer; and Titov (fnu), assistant designer, both for astro-physical equipment. Friedel (fnu), a Jew and former boilermaker who had been in Germany, was chief translator. Colonel Smirnov (fnu), a typical MVD functionary, was chief of the personnel department and also chief of the first department. In addition to the above 25X1 mentioned plant departments, the OTK - Otdel Tekhnicheskogo Kontrolya (technical control section) and the Otdel Snabzheniya (supply section) [redacted]

4. In October 1946, 286 engineers, foremen, and skilled laborers from the Zeiss Plant in Jena, with their dependents, a total of about 700 persons, were deported to the USSR. Seventy-nine of these experts were assigned to GOMZ No. 349 in Leningrad, and another group of about the same strength went to the Progress Plant, located near the Finland Passenger Station. After the train arrived in Leningrad on 30 October 1946, about 50 percent of the persons assigned to GOMZ No.349 were billeted in old buildings in Leningrad - Kamennyy Ostrov, while the others moved into four houses on Kurakina Doroga in Shchemilovka, a southeastern quarter of Leningrad. After about one-and-a-half years, all German experts employed at the plant moved with their families into the four buildings in Shchemilovka, where kitchen facilities were very limited. The Germans were permitted to move freely within a perimeter of two kilometers. Wider movements could only be made with escorts, who had to be requested one day in advance. In the beginning, German engineers worked together with the Soviets, but later they were given their own offices and supervised by Chief Translator Friedel. German and Soviet personnel continued to work together in the astro-testing laboratory, the grinding shop, the optical laboratories for spectrographs, the experimental workshop, the laboratory for filter and sensitometer standards, the laboratory for vacuum evaporation, and the laboratory for quick spectrum analysis. German experts were also employed in the astro-physical workshop, the precision measuring workshop, and the measuring workshop.

5. When the German engineers arrived in October 1946, the equipment of the various departments and workshops was replaced by apparatus and machinery which had either been dismantled in Jena or copied from such machinery. By about mid-1947, this process was completed, and training of the Soviet personnel on the new equipment was initiated. After mid-1948, the entire production of the plant was taken over by the Soviets, and the German experts acted as supervisors. Many of the machines dismantled in Jena were stored for years in the open; other German equipment was spoiled by careless handling. So, the Soviets derived very little profit from the machinery seized in Germany. The confusion involved in the distribution of the laboratory equipment and the technical designs from Jena to GOMZ Plant No. 349, the Progress Plant, and to the State Optical Institute was to a certain extent, eliminated by the German engineers. The plant library was well equipped with literature from Jena and Dresden. However, improper handling by the Soviet personnel prevented efficient utilization of the literature available. [redacted] technical literature was translated 25X1 in Moscow and then distributed among the plants involved. [redacted] 25X1 technical magazines were procured by an agency in Moscow and evaluated. Additional literature was available at the State Library or could be borrowed from the State Optical Institute. There was no regular circulation of foreign magazines or Soviet technical publications as, for instance, Zavodskaya Laboratoriya and the proceedings of the Moscow Academy of Sciences.

6. In early 1952, the monthly output of the plant amounted to 40 ISP.22-type quartz spectrographs, including the pertaining projectors, photometers, and spark and arc generators; 20 ISP.51 glass spectrographs; five Litrov quartz-glass spectrographs made from captured Zeiss material; ten sensitometers; 10 Beckmann-type spectral photometers; 100 precision measuring instruments of various types, including about 10 measuring microscopes and 40 optimeter tubes; 30 motion picture projectors; and 500 to 1,000 photographic cameras. Individual samples of astronomical instruments were also produced at the plant. No information was available on the types and output of range-finders and telescopes. Occasionally, [redacted] an outgoing shipment of range-finders which, however, may have been material from Jena. 25X1 The Lyubitel and Komsomolets type of cameras were cheap products made of plastic material and fitted with poor quality lenses. Also the motion picture projectors were of poor quality, and copies of obsolete Western models. Professor Prokofyev (fnu), of the State Optical Institute, occasionally mentioned at conferences that 10 percent of the spectrographic apparatus were rejected. However, when asked back by a German expert, Prokofyev admitted only 15 to 20 percent of the consumers may be in a position of determining defects, and that probably a still smaller percentage of people would be able to judge the quality of such apparatus. The instruments for spectrum analysis of metals, the measuring microscopes, optimeter tubes, and similar products were generally of excellent material and copied from Jena models. During the first two or three weeks of a month, there was very little work for the assembling department, since only very small stocks of single parts were produced, because of a lack of raw materials and semi-finished products. Most of the assembly work concentrated toward the end of the month when overtime had to be worked in order to fill production quotas. Overtime work was not paid.

7. The plant departments had only small funds available to cover the requirements of small parts, etc. Because of the improvized utilization of captured German material and of unsuitable raw material at the foundry, many of the parts produced did not meet specifications. This endangered the fulfilment of production quotas. Waste of time and material also resulted from poor organization at the plant.

8. At the end of each month, the finished products were packed and either stored in a special building for the final inspection by special personnel, or shipped to receivers given according to orders by the ministry in Moscow.

9. In early 1952, the plant had a work force of about 3,000 people, including about 50 percent women. Wages, which were to be paid every two weeks, were often paid up to eight days behind schedule, because wages were calculated on the basis of the fulfilment of production quotas. Only some privileged departments occasionally received small advance payments. The personnel accepted this procedure without grumbling.

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2. [redacted] Comment: The LOMZ optical plant is medium size and is reportedly located in a southeastern part of Leningrad, on the Neva River, Bortovskaya Street, north of the Bolshevik Plant. During World War II, large sections of the GOMZ Plant were evacuated to Kerbyshkiy near Kazan (N 55-45, E 49008) [redacted] also to Omsk (N 55-00, E 37-29). 25X1

Legend to Location Sketch on page 4

1. GOMZ No. 349, Optical Plant.
2. Plant area of the Karl Libknekht Plant for farming machines.
3. Sport field and stadium.
4. Cemetery.
5. Finland Freight Station.
6. Finland Passenger Station.
7. Litenyy Bridge.
8. Kirovskiy Bridge.
9. Svobodnyy Bridge.
10. Grenadyerskiy Bridge.

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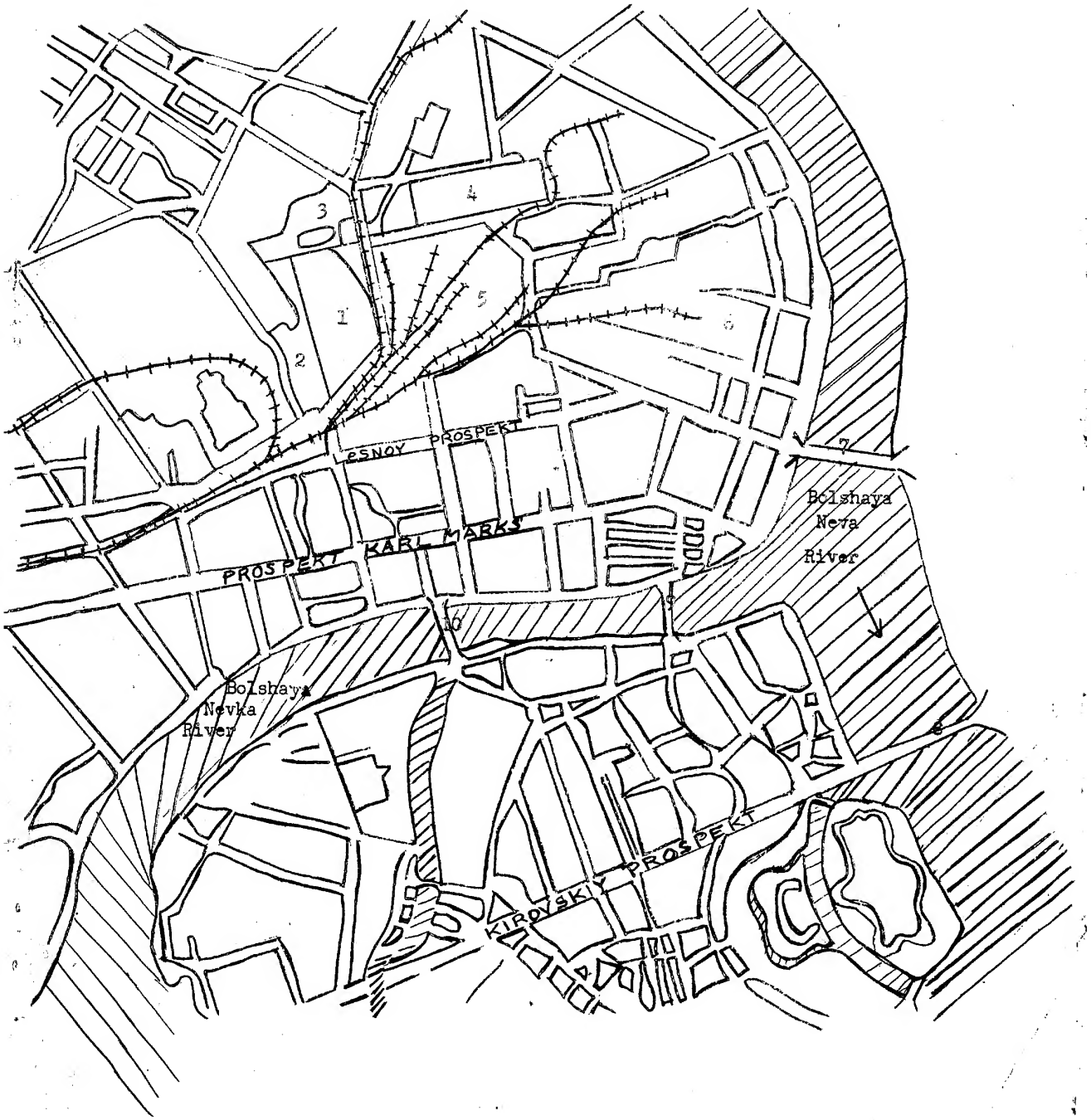
Location Sketch of GOMZ No. 349 Optical Plant in Leningrad

Scale: About 1:22,500



Legend to Layout Sketch on page 7

1. Lesnoy Prospekt.
2. Multi-track railroad installations of Finland Station.
3. Area of Finland Freight Station.
4. Tracks leading to the freight station.
5. Plant railroad connection.
6. Chungunnaya Ulitsa.
7. Fence around plant area.
8. Entrances to the plant.
9. Entrances for vehicles.
10. Area of plant dispensary.
11. Athletic field and stadium.
12. Area of the Karl Libknekht Plant for farming machines.
13. Quarters of fire department.
14. Park.
15. Fountain.
16. Two separate courtyards.
17. Coal storage dump.
18. Crane installation.
19. Guard house.
20. Factory building which had served as temporary quarters for plant personnel until 1952.
21. Administration building.
22. Two designing offices.
23. Various workshops.
24. Three connection archways.
25. Ruin.
26. Workshops and lathe shop for astro-physical instruments.
27. Packing department, store, and experimental workshop.
28. Transformer station.
29. Processing of abrasive agents.
30. Carpenter shop and electric department.
31. Foundry and pattern shop.

32. Workshops, welding shop, and quartz laboratory.

33. Garages.

34. Dispatch office.

35. Potato dump.

36. Four sheds.

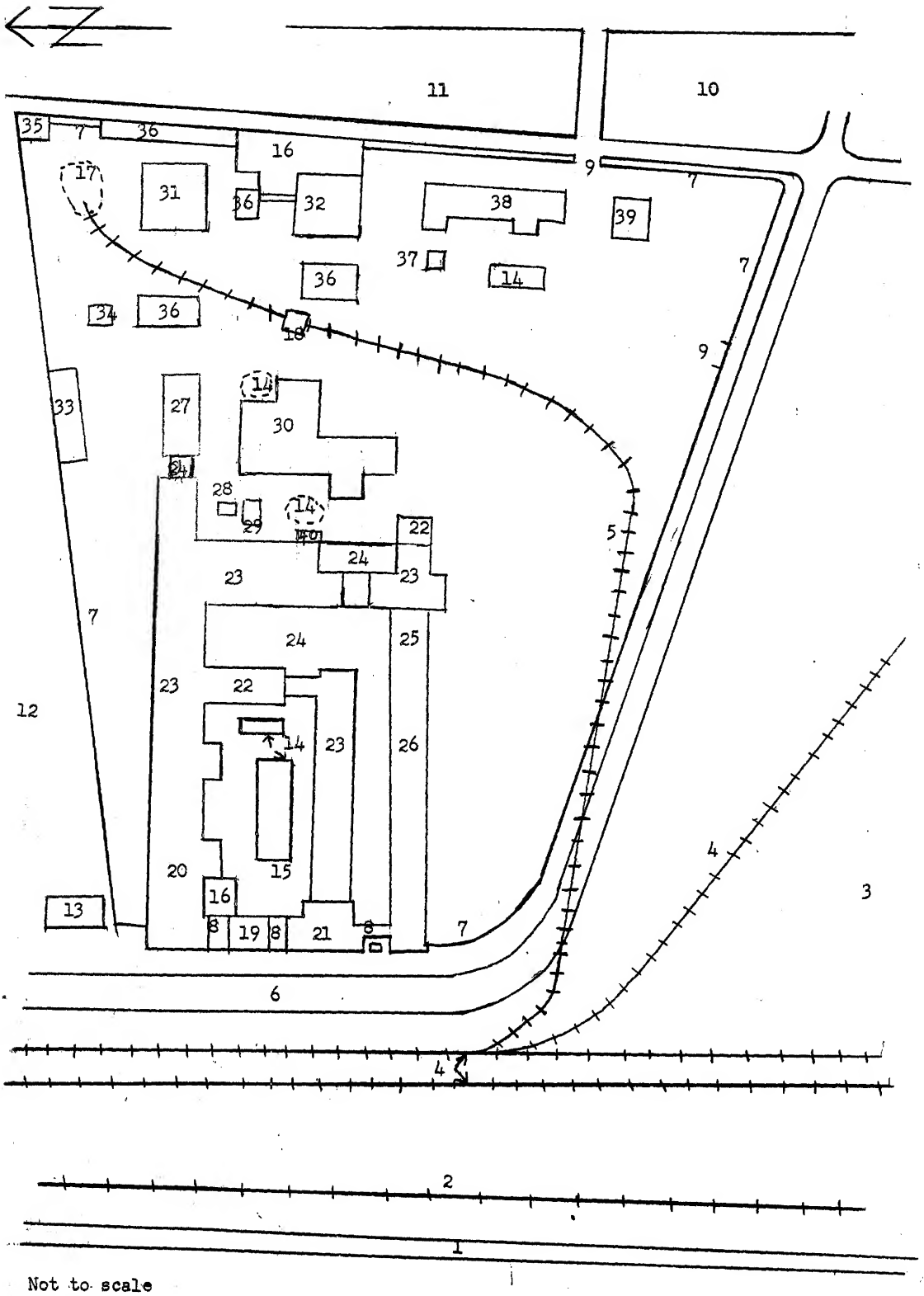
37. Battery shop.

38. Messhall, conference rooms, and library.

39. Storage building.

40. Shops.

Layout Sketch of GOMZ No. 349 Optical Plant in Leningrad



Not to scale